

T H E
C A S E
O F T H E
Glass - Makers, Sugar - Bakers, and other
Consumers of C O A L S.



H A T before the *COMBINATION*, in the Year 1731, the best Coals (for time almost *Samemorial*) were sold at *Newcastle* for Twelve Shillings *per Newcastle Chaldron*; and Eight Chaldron *Newcastle Measure*, made out Sixteen *London Chaldron*; and if they fell short of that Measure at *London*, the Coal Owner or Fitter made good the Difference.

I N 1731, some of the Coal Owners lowered the Price from 12 s. to 9 s. 6 d. *per Chaldron*, which Price They continued the greatest Part of the Year: This occasioned an *Agreement*, which still subsists, among the Principal Coal Owners, to vend Each a certain Quantity Annually.

U P O N this *Agreement*, the Price rose again from 9 s. 6 d. to 12 s. and so continued till 1736, when they raised them to 13 s. and the Measure this Year comes out some times *One*, some times *Two Chaldron in Sixteen*, shorter than in former Years, without any Allowance for such Deficiency.

I N consequence of this *Agreement*, seven or eight different Sorts are mixed in the same Loading, without ascertaining the Quantity of each Sort, whereby *inferior Sorts* are sold at the same Price with the *good*; another great Imposition on the Consumer!

T H E Advance from 12 s. to 13 s. *per Chaldron*, and the Difference in the Measure, makes 15 l. *per Cent.* Increase in the Price, above what it hath for so many Years been.

T H E last Winter a *Scheme* was projected for a *New Regulation in the Coal Trade*, or rather to *Advance the Price of Coals*, and Persons were employed to go from several Sea Port Towns, to *Newcastle and Sunderland*, there to concert Measures for putting the *Scheme* in Execution: And for that Purpose, an *Agent* hath been appointed in each Port along the Coast, and in *London*, to whom the Ships are in general consigned, with Directions as to *Price*, and Orders to deliver *in Turn*, a Copy of which Directions and Orders are here subjoined; for this the *Agent* at *London* receives of the *Master* an half *per Cent.* on the Cargo, which amounts to 4000 l. a Year, besides Factorage for selling the Coals, which is an half *per Cent.* more; and the *Agents* for all other Ports receive a Penny a Chaldron.

A RECEIPT is given by the *Agent* for the half *per Cent.* which serves as a *Certificate* at *Newcastle*, &c. that the *Master* has paid the half *per Cent.* and conformed to the Method of keeping *Turn* in Delivery: Without this *Receipt*, the *Master* can't be loaded at *Newcastle*, &c. till the Ship whose *Turn* he took, and which had conformed, is arrived and loaded, nor till *Ten Days* afterwards, by way of Punishment.

W H E T H E R the present *COMBINATION* is carried on by the *Owners* and *Masters of Ships alone*, or by the Assistance of, or in Conjunction with the *Coal Owners*, their *Agents*, or the *Fitters*, the *Consumers* are equally affected.

I N consequence of these Measures, the Price of *Coals* hath been raised this Spring, considerably higher than usual, to the great Loss of the *Consumers*, the Distress of the *Poor*, and in Prejudice of the *Manufactures* in this Part of the Kingdom, and to the Lessening the Publick Revenue.

I T is therefore humbly hoped, That some speedy and effectual Remedy will be provided, to put an End to the present, and prevent all future *COMBINATIONS* in the *COAL TRADE*.

A Copy

A Copy of the Orders sent by the *Ship Owners*, to their
Agents at the several Ports along the Coast.

Mr. A. B.

S I R,

WE have appointed you as Factor to sell all the Coals that our Ships shall bring to your Port the ensuing Year; and for your Factorage, we agree to allow you a Penny a Chaldron, which you are to receive of the respective Masters, and you are to sell the Coals as the Ships arrive *in Turn*; and to such as are *Regular*, give a Certificate of the Form below, *but not otherwise*: Perhaps some Masters will not apply to you as Factor, *in which Case* you are desired, instead of giving a Certificate, to represent their Behaviour to such Persons at the Loading Ports, as we shall hereafter advise you of; who are,

Your assured Friends and Servants,

Feb. 24. 1737-8.

The Ship Owners of Scarborough.

THESE are to certify, That A. B. Master of the — — — hath here delivered his Loading of Coals, according to the Directions of his Owners. Given under my Hand the Day of 1738.

Per

Factor here.

S I R,

Sunderland, March 10, 1737.

At a Meeting of the Ship Owners of this Place, They thought proper to appoint you Their Agent at your Port; and as such, you are desired to take Care that all Ships deliver their Coals *in Turn*, as they arrive at and not under *per Chaldron*; and that you give Certificates to such Ships as are *Regular*; and that you immediately give Notice to the Agents mentioned below, of such Masters as are not *conformable* to your Directions, for which Trouble you are ordered to receive of every Master a Penny *per Chaldron*, according to Quantity made out. Your particular Care in This, will much oblige the Ship Owners of *Sunderland*.

Mr. Thomas Fox, for *Sunderland*.

Mr. William Abbs, for *Blyth*.

Mr. Francis Armourer, or Mr. Hudspeth, for *Newcastle*.

A Copy of a LETTER sent by the Great Man at
Billingsgate, to his Correspondents in the North.

London, March 2. 1737-8.

SINCE last Post I've to Advise, that several Ships have got up, and among the rest, a good many belonging to *Tarmouth*, who have all gone to work (except Mr. Meek) upon the *Old Terms*, as here is yet no Agent appointed for that Town; so that those belonging to *Whitby* and *Scarborough* are obliged to lie, and seem determined to wait what Measures the *Fitters* will observe in Regard to those who have not submitted to the Rules proposed. Since the Arrival of the Ships, Letters have been dispatch'd to *Tarmouth* about appointing an Agent for that Place; and the Answer is expected on *Monday* next. In My last, I mentioned, that the *Buyers* had submitted to some of the Terms, and in particular, that of giving their Notes at Forty Days, and taking of the Scorage: But since they have met with so many agreeable to their Own Terms, they are far from inclining to come to any other. It is desired you may communicate to the *Fitters*, that such as have been *conformable*, will bring with them Certificates thereof; and its hop'd, by those who now lie, to make a Market for others, for the general Benefit of the Trade, and to their Own Disadvantage; that they will strictly observe the Articles relating to those who do not obtain such Certificates, Col. L——, by his Agent, gives Hopes that it shall be observed where his Concerns are, and that he'll write to T. Airey, particularly, about George Airey, Master of the *George*; T. Hurry has with him a Line or two, signifying that he has been as regular as could be well expected, for we are not yet got into any *Regular Method*, but shall do in a short Time; and then, with the Assistance of the *Fitters*, we doubt not to make a good TRADE for this Year.

An

An Account of some of the Ports where Agents are appointed for Delivery of Coal Ships in Turn, and of the Prices fixed; the Agents Names, their Sallaries, and of the Places from whence the Ships take their Turn, viz.

Coasting Ports.	Price.	Agents Names.	Sallaries.	Place of Arrival, to take their Turn.
	S. per Chal.			
Whitby — — 29	— — —	Henry Walker —	1d. per Chal.	In the Harbour.
Scarborough — — 29	— — —	Sage Fowler —	Ditto —	Ditto.
Lincolnshire May } 20	} — —	William Stenneth	Ditto —	At Ball-Key.
Within the Deep — 19				
Boston Spalding — 18				
Witsbeech — — 18	6 — —	Will. Wilkinson	Ditto —	In Terrington Hole.
Woodbridge — — 20	— — —	Samuel Powell —	Ditto —	In the Harbour.
Ipswich — — 20	6 — —	Tho. Merriman —	Ditto —	At Downham-bridge.
Harwich — — } 20	} — —	Post Master —	Ditto —	As they deliver their Cocket to the
Mannintree — — 20				(Agent.
Wearvenhoe — — 21	— — —	Peter Robinson —	Ditto —	At the Black-house.
Malden — — 20	6 } — —	Edward Jones —	Ditto —	At Anchor Cony Island.
Foulness — — 21	} — —			
Chatham — — 21		Robert Dawson —	Ditto —	At the Upper End of the Dock.
Rocheſter — — 21				
Feverſham — — 22	— — —	Thomas Dave —	Ditto —	In the Harbour.
Deal Beach — — —	— — —			
Dover Peirs — — 30	— — —	Peter Walker —	Ditto —	At the Peirs.
Falkſtone Beach — 24	— — —			
Margett — — 21	— — —			
Sandwich — — 21	— — —	George Naime —	Ditto —	At the Beacon.
Wefſtable — — 20	} — —	Thomas Dane —	Ditto —	First at Anchor.
Hairn — — 20				
Milton — — 21	— — —			
Rye Harbour — — 22	— — —			
New Haven — — 24	— — —			
Shoreham — — 22	— — —			
Arundell — — 22	— — —			
Chicheſter — — 22	— — —			
Portſmouth — — } 22	— — —	James Whitehead	— — —	As they deliver the Cocket to the
Gosport Fareham — 22	— — —			(Agent.
Cows — — 22	— — —	Daniel Todd, jun.	— — —	At Caſſhot Caſtle.
Lemington — — 22	— — —	John Ovia —	— — —	At Jack in the Basket.
	d.			
Pool — — 17	per Buſh.			
Weymouth — — 18	Ditto —			
Lyme — — 19	Ditto —			
	s.			
Topſham — — 12	per Quar.			
Dartmouth — — 12	— — —			
Plymouth — — 12	6 — —			
Lynn — — 13	— — —			

THE CASE

Consumers of COALS,
with the Orders given
for carrying on the
Combustion.

[illegible]